



# Mississippi Works: WIOA Newsletter

**Vol 1/Issue 2**

Monday, June 22, 2015

## ONE STOP OPERATIONS WORKGROUP MEETING

*"People need people to help people," explains Bill Renick, Chairman of the One-Stop Operations Group. "We need to treat everyone the same from the moment they enter the workforce system, until the exit."*

## What is Your Vision?

The Planning and Communications workgroup has been asked to provide input for crafting the vision for Mississippi's workforce development system for the future. Never before have so many stakeholders come together to create a workforce system that acts and functions as an ecosystem while identifying ways to increase the demand for middle-skills jobs. Working together Mississippi has an unprecedented opportunity to improve our workforce participation rate and ensure our citizens are trained for the jobs of the 21st century. Please provide your feedback to Dr. Shane Warren at [swarren@nsparc.msstate.edu](mailto:swarren@nsparc.msstate.edu) by close of business Wednesday, June 24th.

## Who are the CORE partners in the WIOA combined plan?

WIOA is comprised of four primary core partners and since Mississippi is submitting a combined plan, additional partners will be included. The overarching goal of the law is to require greater coordination and alignment between workforce entities and streamline services to better prepare Mississippi's workforce. With feedback from workgroups and subject matter experts, the following programs have now been identified as core partners:

- **Title I – Workforce (adult, youth, and dislocated worker)**
- **Title II – Adult Education and Family Literacy Act**
- **Title III- Wagner-Peyser Act**
- **Title IV – Vocational Rehabilitation**
- **Temporary Assistance for Needy Families**
- **Service for Veterans**

- **Trade Adjustment Assistance**
- **Unemployment Insurance**

- **Senior Community Service Employment Programs**

# Weekly Update

The Aligned and Integrated Technology Workgroup met last week and discussed the WIOA technology requirements that will be incorporated into the workforce development plan. There are already six core programs under one technology umbrella called Mississippi Works. It is a comprehensive system used by jobseekers applying for work, identifying their barriers for employment and following through with an integrated case management system. Under WIOA, unified technology is a requirement as well as establishing one universal intake form. Mississippi Works is currently working with technology vendors to ensure every core partner is compliant with the new law.

The One Stop Operations Workgroup met to discuss ideas for cross program alignment of all services in a seamless model that best accommodates the jobseeker and the employers. Comprehensive centers will provide all of the services (some virtual) in one place to assist the customer. A network of affiliate centers or “triage centers” would offer basic services and would refer the customer to a comprehensive center if they are not able to meet their needs. The mission of the one-stop workgroup is to find jobseekers who are not currently in the system, identify the services they need and ultimately move the needle to increase Mississippi’s workforce participation rate.

## Timeline

### **Employer Engagement Workgroup**

Tuesday, June 23 – 10:00 AM  
Mississippi Department of Employment Security  
1235 Echelon Parkway Jackson, MS

### **Career Pathways Workgroup**

Thursday, June 25 – 10:00 AM  
Mississippi Department of Employment Security  
1235 Echelon Parkway Jackson, MS

### **SWIB Meeting and 1<sup>st</sup> Public Forum**

Friday, June 26 – 10:00 AM  
Mississippi Department of Education Central High School Auditorium  
359 North West Street Jackson, MS

### **Performance and Accountability Workgroup**

Tuesday, June 30 – 10:00 AM  
CAVS Extension  
153 Mississippi Parkway Canton, MS

## **Sector Strategies Workgroup**

Tuesday, June 30 - 1:30 PM

CAVS Extension

153 Mississippi Parkway Canton, MS

## **Business Focus Group**

Wednesday, July 8 – 10:00 AM

Mississippi Department of Information Technology

3771 Eastwood Drive Jackson, MS

## **SWIB Meeting and 2<sup>nd</sup> Public Forum**

Wednesday, July 22 – 5:30 PM

Mississippi Department of Education Central High School Auditorium

359 North West Street Jackson, MS

## **SWIB meeting**

Friday, August 14 – 10:00 AM

Jackson Convention Center

105 E Pascagoula St. Jackson, MS 39201

*\*In addition, WIOA Planning Meetings are held every Friday at 10:00 AM at nSPARC on the campus of Mississippi State University.*

# **Contact**

For more information, visit the WIOA tab our web site at <http://swib.ms.gov/>

Questions? Contact James Williams at 601-321-6046 or [jwilliams@swdb-ms.org](mailto:jwilliams@swdb-ms.org)